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## BOOK REVIEWS

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### SOME RECENT PUBLICATIONS ON CIVICS.

*The Government.* By S. S. CLARK. Pp. 304. American Book Company.

MR. CLARK'S book has some distinctive features. Among these may be mentioned the pictorial aids at the beginning of each chapter, and the use of different sized type to illustrate the relative importance of the different work done by the government.

In the introduction the author shows clearly what government means—its composition and tools; passes to a discussion of ten things that government can, and eight things that it cannot do; treats in order self-government, officers, courts, legislature, and political parties; introduces some simple elements of international and business law; and, in the appendix, gives an outline sketch of the chief governments of the world.

The author is particularly happy in some of his discussions. He shows that ours is a government of laws and not of men (p. 43); that internal revenue is a tax based on luxuries (p. 80); that some taxes are laid for the encouragement of business and some for the discouragement of business (p. 82); that a bill of rights in the American sense is the people protecting themselves against their own elected legislature (p. 111); that the development of the township in the West is a counter tendency to the late growth toward centralization (p. 135); that political parties in Great Britain and the United States are based on principles, in a despotism on plots against the ruler, in South America on adherence to some ambitious man (p. 218); finally, that self-government, to be real self-government, requires a people intelligent, educated, independent and under self-control (p. 269).

There is not much to criticise adversely. On page 101 the author leaves the reader to infer that we make no use of the "referendum." Such is not the case. Again, on page 120, the text says that an amendment to the Constitution of the United States must first be passed by Congress. This is the method that has always been used; but the other possibilities should have been indicated (*Const., Art. V*).

The three hundred pages are crowded with useful, teachable, up-to-date information about our governmental institutions. The author uses the comparative method to good advantage; and our institutions do not suffer by the comparison with European institutions.

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*Training for Citizenship.* By JOSEPH WARREN SMITH. Pp. 344. Lothrop Publishing Company. Price 90 cents.

THE aim of the author, as stated in the preface, is to cultivate a new field, viz.: a thorough discussion of the Constitution of the United States and the principles of law, with the social point of view back of both.

Part I deals with elementary principles—and the school and home. The chapter on individual rights deals with an exploded theory of political philosophy, while the section on the police power should be expanded, or omitted, as it is inadequate in its